

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

A 1 1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for topical administration, comprising an active ingredient, a water insoluble polymer, and a solvent capable of dissolving the water insoluble polymer and compatible with water, and optionally containing ~~other additives~~ wherein said composition is formulated as a cream or ointment which hardens at least in the surface portion of the cream or ointment when topically applied to enable the composition to reside at a site of application to effect controlled release of the active ingredient from the applied composition.

2. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in claim 1, which is an antibiotic, an antibacterial, an antimycotic, an antiviral, a bactericide, an anti-inflammatory, a local anesthetic, a vasoconstrictor, a steroid hormone, an antihistaminic, a prostaglandin, or an antispasmodic in an animal including human.

A 2 3. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 2~~ claim 1 or 2, which is used for intraoral administration.

4. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein the water insoluble polymer is one or more polymers selected from the group consisting of

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aminoalkyl methacrylate copolymer RS, aminoalkyl methacrylate copolymer E, methacrylate copolymer L, methacrylate copolymer S, ethylcellulose, polyvinyl acetal diethylaminoacetate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose acetate succinate, carboxymethyl ethylcellulose, cellulose acetophthalate, rosin, sandarac, celluloid, shellac, and zein.

5. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in claim 1 or 2~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the solvent capable of dissolving the water insoluble polymer and compatible with water is one or more solvents selected from the group consisting of triethyl citrate, triacetin, tributyrin, diacetylene glycol, diethyl sebacate, diethyl phthalate, dibutyl phthalate, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, propylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, glycerin, and acetyl glycerin fatty acid ester.

6. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in claim 1 or 2~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein an additive powder insoluble or slightly soluble in the solvent is incorporated as the other additive.

7. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in claim 1 or 2~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein a pH adjustor is incorporated as the other additive.

8. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in claim 1 or 2~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein an adhesive and/or a swelling agent are or is incorporated as the other additive.

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9. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in claim 1 or 2~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein one or more additives selected from the group consisting of fats and oils, fatty acids ~~and fatty acid derivatives such as~~ salts or esters of ~~the~~ fatty acids, surface active agents, polyhydric alcohols, and higher alcohols are incorporated as the other additives.

10. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in claim 1 or 2~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~, which is a sustained release preparation.

11. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition for topical administration as claimed in claim 10, wherein the active ingredient is a penem antibiotic.

12. (Original) A pharmaceutical base comprising a water insoluble polymer, and a solvent capable of dissolving the water insoluble polymer and compatible with water, and optionally containing additive.

13. (Original) The pharmaceutical base of claim 12, which is used in a pharmaceutical composition for topical administration.

Cancel claims 14-15.

16. (Original) An agent for treatment of periodontal disease, comprising an active ingredient for treatment of periodontal disease, a water insoluble polymer, and a solvent capable of dissolving the water insoluble polymer and compatible with water, and optionally other additive.

17. (New) A method for preparing a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in

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claim 1 comprising the steps of:

(a) mixing a water insoluble polymer with a solvent capable of dissolving the water insoluble polymer and compatible with water to provide a base, and subsequently

(b) mixing an active ingredient and optional additive with the base.
